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Patent
Attorney's Docket No. 016800-390

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of)
Jean-Michel BERNARDON) Group Art Unit: 1616
Application No.: 09/619,584) Examiner: S. Qazi
Filed: July 19, 2000) Confirmation No.: 1988
For: BICYCLIC AROMATIC)
COMPOUNDS)

Bel
3-8-03

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

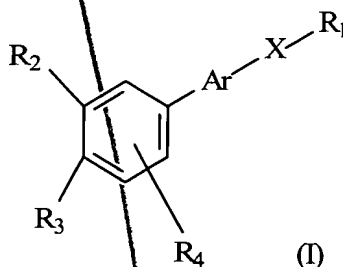
Prior to examination, please amend the above-identified application as follows.

IN THE CLAIMS:

Kindly cancel claims 12-32 without prejudice to or disclaimer of the subject matter therein.

Kindly add new claims 33-52 as follows:

--33. (New) A bicyclic aromatic compound, having the general formula (I):



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